

February 20, 2004

**Project 184 Weekly Update**  
**Website: [www.project184.org](http://www.project184.org)**

Summary of Environmental Planning and Compliance Activities  
For Project 184  
*Week Ending February 22, 2004*

**Mill Creek Diversion Modification Project**

The 30-day public and agency review period for the Initial Study/Proposed Negative Declaration ended on February 10, 2004. The State Clearinghouse reported that it received no comments, and as of January 13, 2004, the District had received comments only from the State Water Resources Control Board. The State Water Resources Control Board staff has recommended that the District drill the bore hole from the diversion structure downward as opposed to from within the Mill to Bull Tunnel upward.

The District has scheduled a project team meeting for February 26, 2004 to discuss final engineering design and construction methods for the project in advance of the Board's March 1 or March 15 date to adopt the CEQA Negative Declaration and approve the project. Key issues for the meeting will be to decide on the proposed drilling direction, associated permitting, and scheduling of the necessary site survey, final design, and construction contracting processes.

**Lake Aloha Dam Maintenance and Telemetry Station Project**

On February 12, EN2 Resources met with District staff to discuss finalizing the Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project. EN2 Resources subsequently incorporated District staff comments that were provided on the Administrative Draft documents. The documents are now set for public release and filing at the State Clearinghouse on February 19 for a 30-day public and agency review period.

**Mill Creek to Bull Creek Tunnel**

EN2 Resources reviewed and provided the District comments on the Owen Engineering draft design report for Spillway 20 Reconstruction, including the proposed housing for the tunnel pump works and the proposed replacement of the Bull Creek Recreation Tract Road culvert on Bull Creek.

**Camp 2 Short-Cut Road**

The District and EN2 Resources met with USFS representatives at Camp 5 on February 11 to discuss the District's proposed maintenance and improvements to the Short-Cut Road. The proposed project would include limiting District use of the road to the dry season, adding gates to prevent unauthorized use, surfacing the road to reduce erosion, improving the approach to the Plum Creek crossing to reduce impacts to stream water quality, and slope stabilization and historic rock wall repairs on nearby sections of USFS system roads leading to Camp 2. The District will be preparing a proposed design for the

road improvements and maintenance in the coming weeks that will be submitted to the USFS for approval. If approved, the District would complete the work in late 2004 and would be adding the "Short-Cut Road" to its Road Use Permit and future Transportation System Management Plan with the USFS.

**Ecological Resources Committee meeting planned for April 27th, 2004 Meeting**

EID held is scheduled ERC meeting on February 17<sup>th</sup>. The next ERC meeting is scheduled for April 27, at 0900.

**Akin Powerhouse Water Quality Monitoring**

The final water quality monitoring events were performed on December 17 and 19 upstream and downstream of the Akin Powerhouse. The monitoring began in mid-October and was performed an average of once per week to assess potential changes in water quality during a wide range of start-up and testing procedures for the powerhouse. Results indicate that Akin Powerhouse operations had negligible effects on South Fork American River water quality conditions during the monitoring periods.

SWPPP measures are in place and inspections are being performed as required.

**Powerhouse Update:**

EID is operating the powerhouse units 1 and or 2 depending on water supply. Currently we are operating at least one unit 24 hours a day, while we perform further testing. Erosion control measures have been completed along the powerhouse access road. An emergency Knox box has been installed on the powerhouse gate to allow emergency vehicles access to the powerhouse.

**Canal**

The flows in the canal are being regulated by A-12 requirements for minimum fish flows. Current flows in canal are ranging between 110-120cfs. The canal is being patrolled on a daily basis and there have been no major problems found which would prevent the canal to be filled to its capacity. SCADA is being manned 24 hours a day to insure the reliable and safe operation of the canal. Further automation of the Diversion Structure is planned to control A-12 (Fish Release's) and A-11 (canal flows).

EID is continually working on its automation to control the Diversion Structure at the intake to regulate the float controller to allow EID to satisfy the A-12 minimum flow requirements and place balance of water in the canal at A-11. This will allow EID to operate with much tighter flows, maximizing generation production. Mead & Hunt continues to provide engineering support on the remaining tasks to be completed at intake.

It was determined by Carlton Engineering that additional vertical drilling would need to be done on the Canal Bench to measure water levels with in the berm. This will be accomplished using a small hand held unit. The additional drilling was completed February 10 along with SWPPP.

EID is in the preliminary stages of beginning work on the Hazel Creek Tunnel. Access road and site clearing is scheduled to begin February 9, 2004, with burning of brush scheduled to be completed by March 31, 2004. This project is expected to be in progress between February 9 through October 31, 2004, at which time EID expects to be completed.

EID has received all its project signs and will be installing these new EID signs throughout our Project 184. The lakes will receive new signage this spring when the snow melts.

**Tributary flows:**

Esmeralda and Ogilby are not being utilized in canal, as of this report; however if bypass flows are above minimums EID will utilize the water as needed.

**Echo Lake**

The flashboards have been removed from the spillway and the facilities have been winterized.

**Caples Lake**

The flashboards have been removed from the spillway and the facilities have been winterized.

**Silver Lake**

The radial gates are in the full open position and will remain this way From November 1 to April 1 inclusive. Facilities have been winterized.

**Lake Aloha**

Lake Aloha is shut down for the winter, which is the normal operating pattern.

A visit was made October 29, 2003 to Lake Aloha.

Staff 5.64 = 29.5 AF

A trip was made to Pyramid Creek (A-40) on January 29, Staff Reading 1.72=12.9cfs.

A trip was made to Echo Lake the week of January 19<sup>th</sup> but readings could not be taken due to the amount of snow on the staff. Everything appears to be normal.

**Listed below are the Projects readings for February 20, 2004  
Taken from SCADA:**

	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Ac. Ft.</b>	<b>Draft</b>
Echo Lake	0	0	0
Echo Conduit	0	0	0
Echo Creek	0		0
Caples Lake	40.85	10,744	9 cfs.
Silver Lake	3.40	906	12.4 cfs.
Pyramid Creek	0	0	0

There is 107.5cfs @ A-11cfs being released into the canal at Intake and 96.8cfs flowing in the South Fork of the American River at Intake.

A-17 Forebay Storage  $3797.22 = 297$  AF

A-18 EID Irrigation Usage is  $.36 = 4$ cfs.

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